

School Bulletin



From Mr Walker, Principal of Stowupland High School

Open evening feedback

Thank you to all parents and carers who came to our Open Evening on Thursday. Once again, our students were terrific ambassadors for the school. We would really appreciate your feedback on Open Evening. Please click on this link [Open Evening Feedback Form](#)

Ski Trip Information Evening

Apologies for the confusion in dates in last week's newsletter. The Ski Trip 2026 information evening is Wednesday 1st October at 5pm in the Sixth Form building.

Please note that this is an information evening for families that have already signed up to the ski trip. Ski trip 2028 will be launched in March/April 2026.

Attendance Matters

At the Open Evening, we shared this year's Year 11 results and the impact of attendance.

- Those who attended 95% or more achieved an average grade 5 or better in Maths and English regardless of background and circumstance.
- Those who attended 90% or more reduced their average grade in Maths and English to 4+.
- Below 90%, the average grade reduces to 3+.

Our mission is to help students be as successful as they can in the future - in academic outcomes and in their future education and employment. This means that 95% attendance must be a minimum expectation. Please do everything you can to send your child to school (unless they are seriously unwell, of course) to minimise lost learning time.

We want to avoid any student being classified as a Persistent Absentee (less than 90% attendance). This carries serious risks, including:

- significant academic underachievement, such as a lower GCSE grade, gaps in learning, and higher chances of being NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) in the future.
- increased risk of poorer mental health.
- greater vulnerability to exploitation, anti-social behaviour, and criminal convictions.

The school breaks up for October Half Term on Friday 24th October. To maintain good attendance and avoid being classed as a persistent absentee by that date, students must avoid the following thresholds.

- to maintain a 95% or above attendance students can't have more than 4 sessions (2 days) off school
- to avoid being classified as persistent absentee (below 90% attendance), students can't have more than 7 sessions of absence (3.5 days) before Half Term.

The following tips may help to maintain good attendance:

- If a student is unwell, give them additional rest in the morning and attempt to get them to school for lunchtime (12.50pm) so they experience some social time with their peers and do not miss a whole day's learning.
- If a student is feeling under the weather in school, they should try and hold out until 2pm so they have been to a majority of lessons
- If it is unavoidable to book medical appointments during the day please avoid the student being off all day and book appointments between 10am-12pm or after 2pm.



Travelling to and from school

We have received concerns from local members of the community regarding the safety of students who are not being as alert as they cross roads or cycle to and from school. We take student safety extremely seriously and never wish to experience a scenario where a student has been seriously hurt or worse due to carelessness when travelling to and from school.

Walking to school

Students that walk to school should do so calmly and safely. Students should stick to the pavement and be courteous to other members of the public using the pathways and ensure that room is given for pedestrians to walk past or overtake without the need to step into roads. They must not push or shove other students or play ball games whilst walking to school. Students should avoid using mobile phones when walking and crossing roads so they are fully aware of their surroundings.

Cycling to and from school

If your child cycles or uses a scooter, please ask them to think about pedestrians and other road users. There has been some reckless behaviour recently, including weaving in and out of traffic and pulling out in front of vehicles. We strongly advise that students wear a helmet at all times that they are cycling, and that they wear reflective clothing.

Further guidance for students and parents can be found in [The Highway Code](#).

Dates for your diary

Monday 29th September	Year 7 Settling In Evening
Thursday 2nd October	Ski Trip Information Evening
Thursday 9th October	Year 11 GCSE Preparation Evening
Wednesday 15th October	Year 11 Progress Check report available
Saturday 18th October	D of E Navigation Walk
Thursday 6th November	Careers Fair